

"Talking Freight" Seminar Series

Come hear the latest on freight transportation trends and challenges in the 21st Century.

The Federal Highway Administration's (FHWA's) Office of Freight Management and Operations, in partnership with the FHWA's Office of Planning and other public and private organizations, is hosting the new "Talking Freight" Seminar series via the telephone and Internet. The seminars are part of a broader Freight Professional Development Program initiative aimed at providing additional technical training, tools, and information to help the freight and planning workforce meet the transportation challenges of tomorrow. Seminars will be held on a monthly basis throughout the year and are open to all interested parties in both the public and private sectors. The schedule of planned seminars is on the reverse. **To register for "Talking Freight" seminars, please go to <http://talkingfreight.webex.com>.** If you have questions, please call or email Jennifer Seplow, SAIC, at 703-676-0851, Jennifer.E.Seplow@saic.com.

Why dial in?

With limited travel budgets and busy work schedules, it has become increasingly more difficult for freight and freight planning practitioners to get needed information, training, and education to keep up-to-date with the latest trends, tools, and noteworthy practices in freight transportation. *The seminar series provides a convenient and no-cost way for transportation practitioners to broaden their knowledge base and develop new skills to help them do their jobs better.* These topics were chosen based on suggestions made at various freight outreach events, as well as through conversations with freight stakeholders. The seminars will include sessions on freight decision-making tools, the challenges of urban goods movement, and innovative approaches to planning intermodal projects.

As an added benefit, participants will be given the opportunity to register for a Freight Peer Exchange.

The Peer Exchange will take place through the Freight Planning LISTSERV (www.fhwa.dot.gov/freightplanning), which is managed by FHWA's Office of Planning in coordination with FHWA's Office of Freight Management and Operations. The Peer Exchange will serve as another resource to expand participants' freight transportation knowledge.

How it works

The seminars are interactive and will be held via teleconference and the Internet. All that is needed is a telephone and a 56K Internet connection. This format allows for extensive participation of freight stakeholders from across the country. Each seminar will last 90 minutes, with 60 minutes allocated for the presentation, and 30 minutes for audience Q&As. Through the use of web conferencing, participants will be able to view the speaker's PowerPoint presentation on their personal computer and hear the audio portion of the presentation by dialing into the assigned teleconference number.

Within the next few weeks, FHWA will post information on the "Talking Freight" website. This site will contain details about each of the seminars and registration information. It will also be used for logging on to the web conference and providing feedback after each seminar. Seminars will be recorded and archived on the "Talking Freight" website as well. Once participants register for a particular seminar, they will receive an email with directions for logging on to the web conference and the teleconference.

We look forward to your participation and hope that you will find the "Talking Freight" Seminar series beneficial to your professional needs.

Date & Time	Topic	Description of Topic	Speakers
Jul 23 1:00 pm – 2:30 pm Eastern Daylight Time (EDT)	Incorporating Freight in the Transportation Planning Process—How to Get Started	The seminar will introduce freight transportation and its issues and concerns, describe how freight can be more fully integrated into the planning process, and offer some tips on getting started.	Peter Beaulieu, Puget Sound Regional Council James Brogan, Cambridge Systematics, Inc.
Aug 20 1:00 pm – 2:30 pm EDT	Freight Advisory Groups	This seminar will address the benefits and effectiveness of forming and sustaining freight advisory groups from experts in two regions.	Ted Dahlburg, Delaware Valley Regional Planning Commission Gerald Rawling, Chicago Area Transportation Study (CATS)
Sep 17 1:00 pm – 2:30 pm EDT	Freight Data and Decision-making Tools	The seminar addresses two data sources: 1) Description of the FHWA's Freight Analysis Framework (FAF), its use for planning and modeling, and introducing a new product—Intermodal Bottleneck Evaluation Tool (IBET) 2) Hear the latest status on the BTS' Commodity Flow Survey and how it supports freight planning.	Bruce Lambert, FHWA, Office of Freight Management and Operations Felix Ammah-Tagoe, Consultant for Bureau of Transportation Statistics
Oct 15 1:00 pm – 2:30 pm EDT	Border Crossings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Border Wizard • Data Collection • FAST • Border Trade Issues • What do Planners Need to Know About International Trade 	Hear from the experts who are using innovative tools and methodologies for improving border crossing transportation efficiencies.	TBD
Nov 19 1:00 pm – 2:30 pm Eastern Standard Time (EST)	Urban Goods Movement and Planning	This seminar will address the freight issues, challenges and solutions surrounding the delivery of goods in urban areas.	Arun Chatterjee, University of Tennessee, Dept. of Civil Engineering
Dec 17 1:00 pm – 2:30 pm EST	Short Sea Shipping	Learn about MARAD's major initiative to expand the use of short sea shipping in the United States. The Short Sea Shipping initiative is part of MARAD's response to the Department of Transportation Secretarial directive to prepare the U.S. for a projected doubling in trade by the year 2020.	Carl Sobremisana, MARAD Ports and Domestic Shipping

For more information, please contact

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